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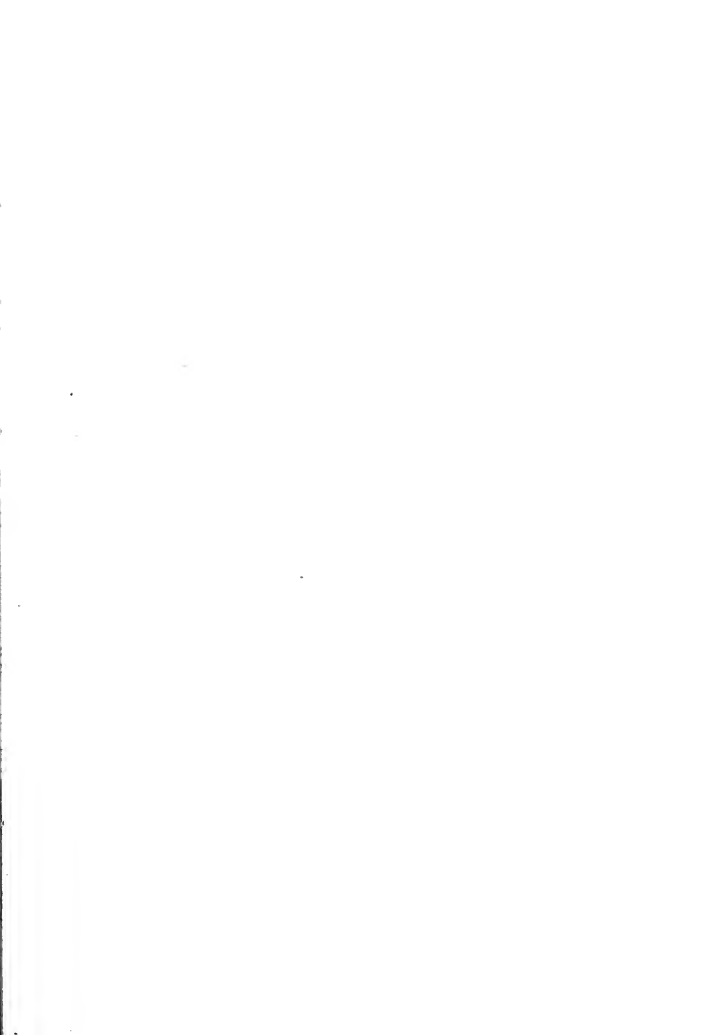
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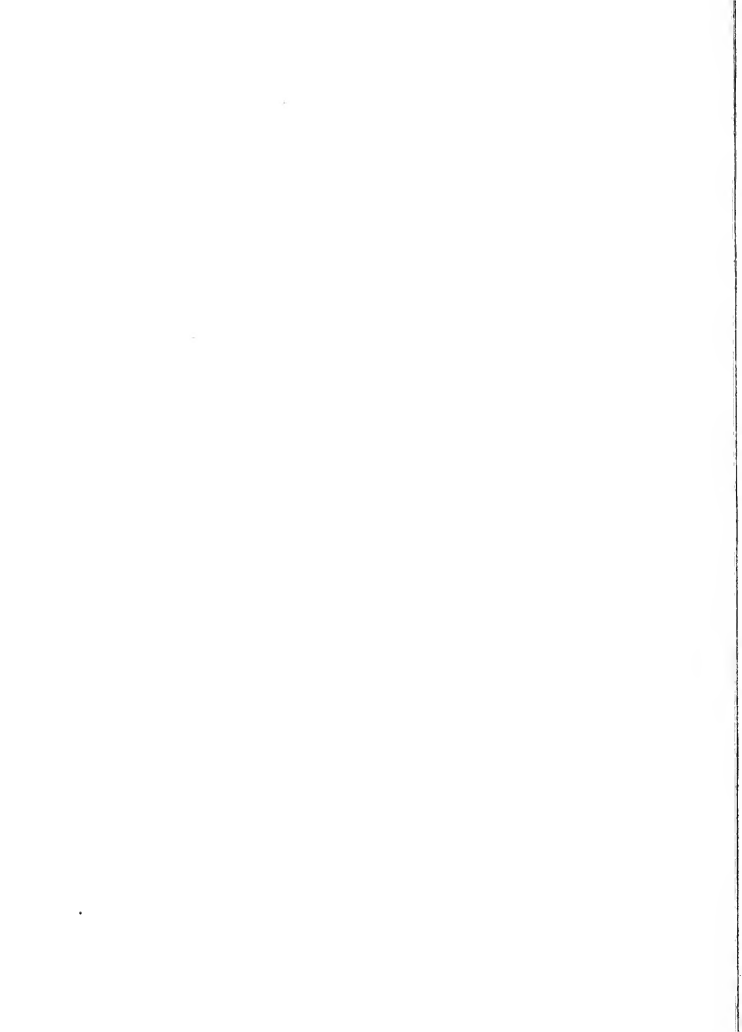
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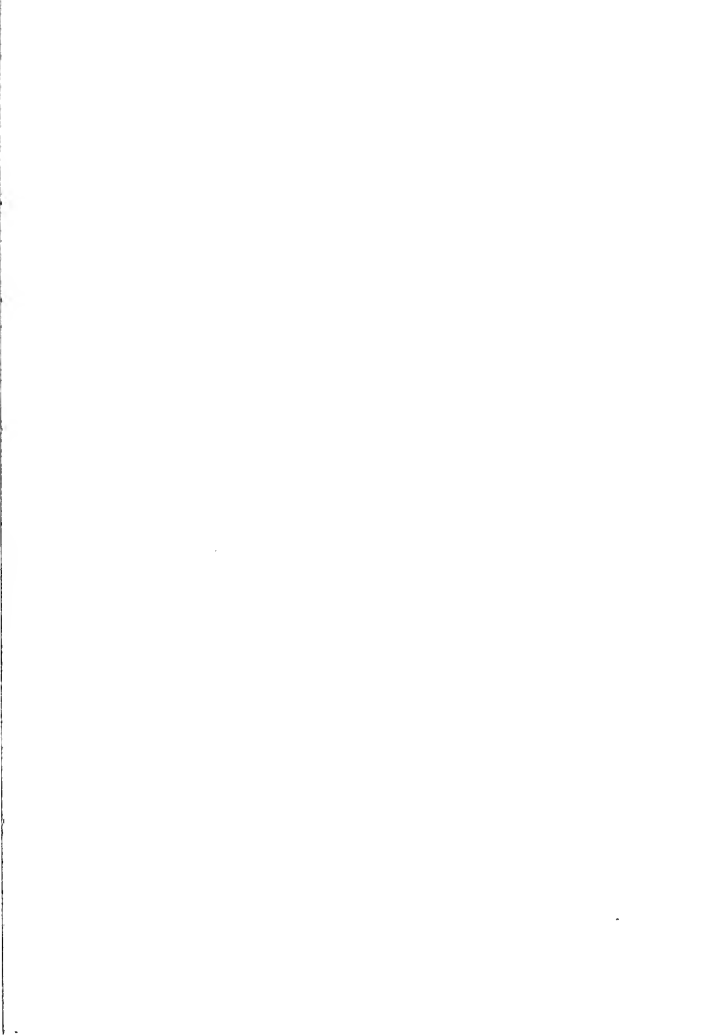


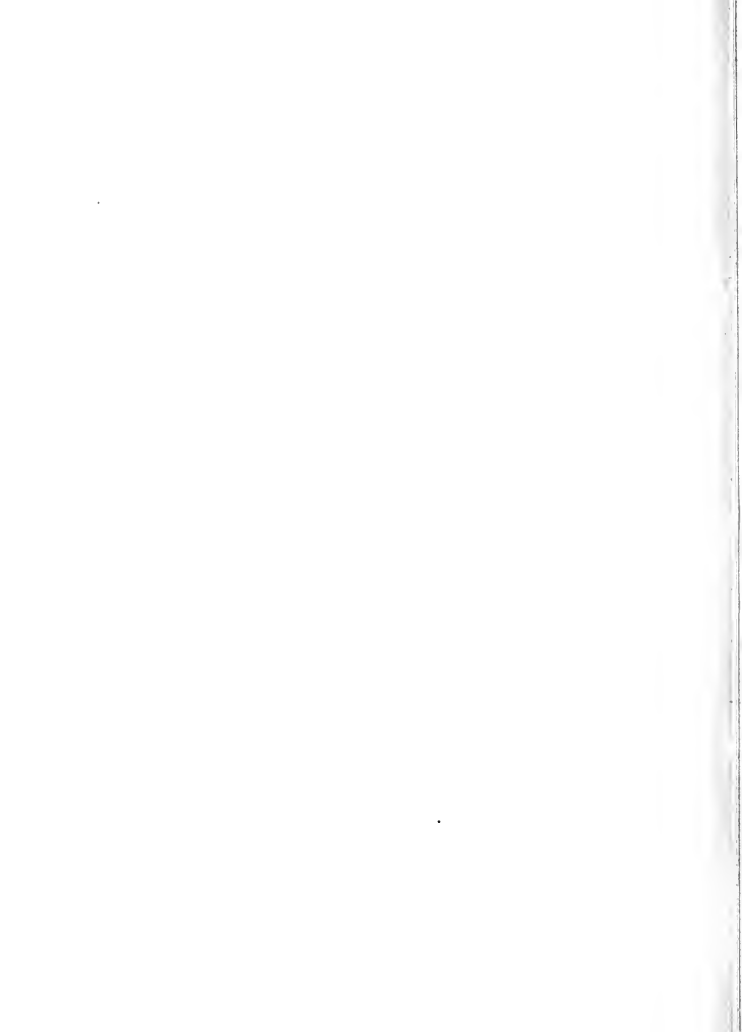
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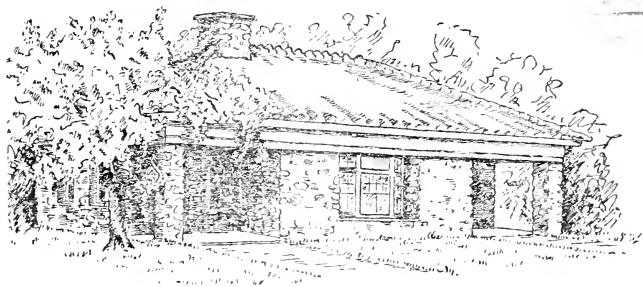






## The Building We Dedicate.

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NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*THE HANDSOME LIBRARY and town building, about the dedication of which center the events of this Old Home Week in Tyringham, is constructed of round, lichen-covered field stone and red tile, with the interior finished in natural woods and a huge rustic stone chimney. The ground measurement is 54 x 33 feet, the height a story and a half above the basement, the location on the most prominent corner in town, with the Hop Brook singing happily gway in the rear. Besides the library apartments, consisting of one large room, an alcove and two spacious galleries, there*

books were placed in the front room of the Baptist parsonage, volunteer librarians again being obtained; and still later in a room in the "Long House," owned by M. W. Stedman. At present the collection of books numbers approximately 1400.

The cornerstone of the library building was laid with appropriate ceremonies June 30, 1902, L. B. Moore, chairman of the trustees, presiding and making an address, Rev. J. W. Morrison offering prayer, Richard Watson Gilder, the late Robert S. Rudd and the late Rev. Dr. Rowland completing the list of speakers. Rev. John Lord pronounced the benediction. The list of donors may be found in full in the printed town reports for the last few years.

Although as these pages are closed there appears reason to believe that the library may be dedicated almost if not quite free of debt, there remains yet abundant opportunity for interested ones to aid in rounding out the good work so far advanced. The library needs furniture; there should be a suitable heating apparatus; the land to the rear and the south should be purchased, giving to the building a free corner bounded by the two highways and the brook.



# Tyringham: Old and New

BY

JOHN A. SCOTT,

*Secretary to the Committee.*

1715?

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## Tyringham: Old and New

BY JOHN A. SCOTT,

*Secretary to the Committee.*

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TYRINGHAM, as a town and as individuals, extends to you to-day a most cordial welcome, kind friend — be you former resident, son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter of one, or simply a neighbor invited in to share in the festivities. It is good for you to be here; it is good for the present inhabitant that you are come. Again, welcome!

Now that you are here, what do you think of the dear valley? Is it as you remember it? As your father or your mother or your grandparents led you to suspect? If not, it is not surprising. It is doubtful if any other corner in the old Bay State has seen so many marked transitions within the same extent of time as this Valley of the Hop Brook. In the period of 143 years which has elapsed since the incorporation of the town, the Hop Brook Valley may be said to have passed out of the swamp age into the pioneer epoch, then successively into the Shaker age, the paper

mill age, the agricultural period, the tobacco age and the summer boarder epoch. Now, whether for weal or for woe, the valley appears to be well advanced upon the era of the landed proprietor—that is, a period in which large farms are owned and occupied as summer homes by persons having their principal interests elsewhere.

Let us glance back down the decades.

### **A Vast Wilderness.**

It is noticeable that within only thirteen years after the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, the whites had spread out over the land seeking homesteads until the fertile valley of the Connecticut was reached and settled. But the steep and rugged hillsides of the Berkshires boldly defied the frontiersman. Not once in all that first century following the landing is there record of a white man's attempting to settle amid the well-nigh impenetrable forests that clothed our hills. In 1676 a band of warriors pursued their red antagonists to the very banks of the Housatonic, but nearly twenty years later when Benjamin Wadsworth, not then president of Harvard university, crossed on a mission to Albany with a guard of soldiers he

described the journey as most frightful and returned through Connecticut. Berkshire, as it is now constituted, was in fact the last county in the state to be settled. The territory was originally a part of "Old Hampshire" county which latter was still further divided into Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden in 1811-12. Berkshire county was incorporated as it now exists in 1761, one year only prior to the incorporation of Tyringham as a town. The long delay in its settlement had probably a three-fold cause—its inaccessibility from the other New England settlements; the fear of Indian incursions from the north; the unpleasant relations with the Dutch of New York State, with whom Massachusetts had more than one matter in dispute.

### **The Great Road.**

The settlement of Sheffield and Stockbridge at length made necessary a road across the Hoosacs, this eastern range of the Berkshires, and it was deemed that the most feasible route lay through the present town of Otis, to Great Barrington or Sheffield, passing the ponds now known as Lakes Garfield and Buel. This road from Westfield to Sheffield

would also mean direct communication between Boston and Albany. Accordingly on January 15, 1735, the legislature ordained that four townships be opened along the route, each six miles square and containing sixty-three home lots, "one of which to be for the first settled minister, one for the second settled minister, one for each grantee, which shall draw equal shares in all future divisions." The grantees were to receive their land in consideration for the work expended in opening the road. The land was purchased from the Stockbridge Indians by Cols. Ephraim Williams and Nahum Wood and the townships were at first known as Housatonic townships Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, subsequently becoming Tyringham, New Marlborough, Sandisfield and Becket, respectively. In general the lines of

### **Township No. 1.**

No. 1 embraced the territory now known as Monterey and Tyringham. Later the town was granted a handsome equivalent for the acreage deemed to have been lost to it through Lakes Garfield and Buel and again when the survey of the town of Lee cut off a big slice on the northwest. The tract com-

monly known as the "Tyrringham Equivalent" soon became the town of Loudon, now known as Otis, and in 1811 a part of Tyrringham was annexed to New Marlborough. In 1812 a part of New Marlborough was annexed to Tyrringham and various other alterations in the bounds occurred prior to the historic division of the township in 1847, when "South Tyrringham" became the town of Monterey. At the time of its greatest size, Tyrringham is said to have contained 4,800 acres of land in addition to the original six miles square. The number of proprietors was also raised to seventy. William Chandler made a survey of the town in 1736. It was the original intention that the west line should "run north so as to strike the south bank of the Housatonic after it makes the great bend to the west in Lee." Had this been done the shape of the present town would doubtless be on more natural lines to-day than is the case.

Mr. Edwin Brewer, writing in 1829, says the town "was divided into twenty-one portions by lines running from northwest to southeast, half a mile from each other, from the southwest to the northeast corner. House lots, from

forty to eighty acres each, were laid out on the six portions next to the six southwestern, contiguous to each other, abutting on the lines crossing the township. House lot No. 25 was set apart for the first clergyman, No. 21 for the second, No. 20 for schools and sixty-seven were drawn by lot against the names of the proprietors. Four of the proprietors were clergymen, and drew the following lots, viz.: Rev. William Williams of Weston, No. 38, since occupied by Daniel Garfield; Rev. John Cotton of Boston, No. 1, on which the first and second churches were built; Rev. Warham Williams of Waltham, No. 70, now occupied by Jonas Brewer, and Rev. Jonathan Townsend of Needham, No. 58, now occupied by their descendants. The drawing began November 15, 1737, and was completed February 28, 1738. The other parts of the township, excepting that one lot of seventy acres was reserved for mills, were divided into larger lots, called town lots, and drawn against the number of the house lots. The town lots were 271 and the whole number of lots 342, besides the prior grants already named."



## The First Settlement.

There are reasons to believe that Samuel Winchell may have lived in the vicinity as early as 1735, but the first recorded settlement in the township occurred in April, 1739, when Lieut. Isaac Garfield and Thomas Slaton moved upon lot No. 1. The descendants of the former have been many and have left their imprint on both sections of the town. Isaac Garfield, Jr., was the first child born in No. 1. Garfield and Slaton were speedily joined by John Chadwick, Esq., and the following August Capt. John Brewer from Hopkinton erected a house a little south of Lake Garfield (which water for quite a century bore his name) and, in accordance with his contract with the proprietors, at once began the erection and operation of mills. Although there were never any serious Indian incursions made into southern Berkshire, Captain Brewer's house was one of a number fortified during the French war which began in 1744. Among the soldiers garrisoned there by the provincial government was William Hale, who later married a daughter of Captain Brewer's, became a settler and a deacon of the church. From him have descended another family still prominent in town affairs.

## The Name, Tyringham.

The settlement of Township No. 1 progressed but slowly until the passing and repassing of troops through it in the French war began to draw attention to its many advantages. Up to 1750 township affairs were administered from the eastern part of the State, but in that year the proprietors began to meet regularly on the ground. Still it was not until 1762 that the town was regularly incorporated under a distinctive name. According to the early historians the name "Tyringham" was suggested by Lord Viscount Howe, who passed through No. 1 on his way to give up his life at Ticonderoga in battle with the French. Howe is said to have owned an estate in Tyringham, England. O. C. Bidwell, writing in 1885, says the name is probably a corruption of Turing's-ham, the home of the Turings. Rev. C. J. Palmer of Lanesborough, more recently, would take the honor for the suggestion from Lord Howe and bestow it upon Barnard, governor of Massachusetts "at the time Berkshire county was settled." According to this writer the English Tyringham was so called "from being settled by the Thuringians, a powerful tribe in Central Ger-

many, from whom the institution of the Salic law was in part derived. Thuringia was so called from being conquered and settled by a tribe bearing the name of Durii, who originally came from Greece. Durii is an abbreviation of Hermanduri, the wife of Orestez, and the daughter of Menelaus and Helen, concerning whom was waged the celebrated Trojan war."

The first officers of the town were Capt. John Chadwick, Isaac Garfield and Ethan Lewis, selectmen; Benjamin Warren, town clerk; Capt. John Chadwick, treasurer.

### **The Old Center.**

The original "center" of the town, singularly enough, was neither the present hamlet of Monterey, nor that of Tyringham. The first church was erected on house lot No. 1, drawn by Rev. John Cotton of Boston. The site may now best be reached from Tyringham by turning west from the usual Monterey road at the "Morse school house." It is near the homestead of S. C. Carrington. The construction of the edifice was begun in 1743, but the French war served to delay its construction for so long a period that a tree of

considerable size is reputed to have grown within the timbers before the roof was laid. In 1796 a second church was begun on the same lot, but nearly a half mile to the southward. It was larger and more ornate. About it grew up what is popularly termed the "Old Center." Its foundations may still be traced a short distance from the Clapp boarding house. The first pastor was Rev. Adonijah Bidwell. The church, which was Congregational in denomination, was organized in 1750 with the following eight members: John Jackson, Thomas Orton, William Hale, John Chadwick, Ephraim Thomas, Jabez Davis, David Everest and Adonijah Bidwell. To these churches for two generations went all the Congregationalists of Hop Brook or present Tyringham, and until 1847 in them were held the town meetings and State and national elections for the whole township.

### **Hop Brook a Swamp.**

Strictly speaking, the history of the present town of Tyringham dates simply from the year of the incorporation of the whole town — 1762. Up to that year the northern portion of Township No. 1 seems to have been regarded as an unhealthful, almost an impenetrable swamp.

It is as difficult to-day to imagine the condition of the Hop Brook valley in that early period as it is for the newcomer to picture in his mind's eye the present hamlet of Tyringham as the bustling mill town it was back in the paper-making days. When in 1762 Deacon Thomas Orton moved over from the center and built a log cabin on the site of the present "South House" on Fernside property, he was, it is said, the very first white man to erect a roof in the confines of this valley. In every direction as far as the eye could reach spread the virgin forest. In the bottom of the valley, beneath the trees all was marsh. The brooks had no regular channels. Their waters spread out in flood time from hillside to hillside, and when the flood subsided the bottoms drained but slowly. Vines — chiefly the wild hop — clambered up the trees and laid snares for the venturesome explorer. Not even the red man lingered there.

### **The Royal Hemlock.**

Presently the Royal Hemlock road was cut through the forest from the old church and past the present Carrington homestead, coming out at Jerusalem, in the rear of the present Curtin homestead.

Over it Deacon Orton could go to meeting and over it his friends from the center could come to visit him. The next pioneer to make his home in the valley is reputed to have been one Davis, who located in the extreme upper end of the valley, at Sodom, now so-called. It is said that in this gorge quite a settlement existed before anyone ventured upon making a clearing in the valley bottom. When the War of the Revolution broke out, however, a beginning had been fairly made toward the creation of the beautiful meadows as we know them to-day. Deacon William Hale had come over from the center and established a home where his descendant, Charles H. Hale, to-day resides, while Capt. Ezekiel Herrick had also made a clearing. Others among the early settlers were the Clarks, Heaths, Wilsons, Tompsons, Halls and Parkers.

The sugar maple then as now flourished in the valley, and tradition has it that the friendly Stockbridge Indians were accustomed to camp every spring upon Camp Brook, flowing through Robb de P. Tytus's present Ashintully Farm, catching the sap in birchbark buckets as it ran from the trees. The claim has further been made by a local historian that in this way and on this spot the white man first learned to make maple sugar.

## Farming the Hills.

As the fall of Quebec in 1759 was followed by a considerable influx of inhabitants into South Tyringham, so the close of the Revolution saw a speedy invasion of all the recesses of Hop Brook. Roads soon ran at frequent intervals over every hillside and hilltop, and they were lined with homes. Many of the dwellings were crude at first, often mere log huts, and the furniture was mostly home made. When Capt. Thomas Stedman came up from Rhode Island in about the last year of the eighteenth century he brought his wife and child on horseback along a narrow trail and built his house in what was then a wilderness and now the so-called Webster School District.

But the outgo from Tyringham almost from the very beginning nearly equalled when it did not exceed the influx of population. The wars, the fertile western prairies, the gold excitement, the glamour of the great cities, have all in turn exercised their allurements on the young men and even their elders. To-day only stone walls and cellar holes indicate the greater portion of the hill settlements. Most of the hill farms have become incorporated into those of the valley.

## The Shakers.

The Society of Shakers, or as they prefer to be called, "The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing," for a hundred years played an important part in the life of this valley, and to their untiring industry is due much of the present beauty and productivity of the town.

The society sprang originally from a series of religious revivals which broke out on the continent of Europe early in the eighteenth century. In 1706 this spread to England and about 1747 some members of the Society of Quakers formed themselves into a society of which Jane and James Wardley were the leaders. In 1758 they were joined by Ann Lee, who was born in Manchester, England, February 29, 1736, being one of the large family of John Lee, a blacksmith. Soon Ann became the acknowledged head of the order. Although her followers have since declared her marriage with one Stanley, a blacksmith, to have been her "one great sin," they have declared her Jesus Christ descended to earth in the form of a woman. Works sold at the existing Shaker communities relate various miracles that she is alleged to have wrought.



Having, as it is said, been directed by the spirits so to do, and also, it may be imagined, to escape from persecution, "Mother Ann" and several of her order set sail for America in 1774. A year or so afterward they formed a settlement at Watervliet, near Albany, N. Y., and there in 1784 Ann gave up the ghost, aged forty-five years and six months. Before she died, however, several persons living in the southwestern part of Hop Brook began to attend the meetings of the Shakers who had formed the newer settlements of Mt. Lebanon and Hancock. In April, 1782, William Clarke, Henry Herrick, Elijah Fay and Joshua, Abel and William Allen, who had but recently arrived in town from Coventry, Conn., set up Shaker meetings at one another's houses. Two years later they were joined by Abisha Stanley, James Pratt and Thomas Patten from Belchertown. In 1792 they united their farms and all other property

### **"Fernside's" Beginning.**

into one community of ownership, deserted most of their houses and formed a village of which the present "Fernside" is the outgrowth. Within thirty-five years this little society increased to about one hundred members, owned

some 1,500 acres of land, possessed two settlements three-quarters of a mile apart, containing an office, a school house, four dwelling houses, various shops and outhouses, a pocket furnace and a saw mill.

Until 1858 the society continued to prosper. The present fine dwellings at Fernside were constructed — in one was the community dining room and kitchen; another was the “church house.” The largest of all was for the drying and packing of the garden and flower seeds which brought so many dollars into the common fund. There were fewer partitions in those days in church and seed house; in the latter a freight elevator ran from basement to cupola and only a few years ago was still to be seen there the printing press which turned out the thousands of seed labels. In the tool shop not only were horses and oxen shod, but stoves and nails and nearly all other articles of iron needed in the set-

### **Self-Sustaining Community.**

tlement were produced. On the site of the first house ever built in Hop Brook was erected the fine building now fallen into decay and known as the South House. The stream that feeds the Shaker Bowl turned several Shaker

shops and the outlet of the bowl ran a Shaker saw.

Northward through the great maple sugar orchard was the North Family settlement. All that remains of it to-day is the front half of Mrs. M. F. Hazen's "Nokomis Lodge" and the four-story red shop in the hollow of the hill on the same property. In the old days there were four dwellings closely grouped, an imposing array of barns and sheep-folds, while the little stream that turned the saws and lathes of the "red shop," also worked other shops above. The community land had increased to between 2,000 and 3,000 acres and practically every square foot was made to yield a return. Every Shaker — man, woman and child — was busily employed and "world's people" were hired in considerable numbers to assist in the harvests and in the permanent improvements.

Holding marriage in abhorrence, only by constant recruiting from the Gentiles could the Shakers hope to perpetuate their communities, and this proved to be impossible. Even the children taken in as infants, when they came to years of discretion, showed a tendency to desert. In 1858 the Tyringham community lost twenty-three members at one time and by 1874 the mem-

bership had dwindled to a mere handful. The land was then broken up, the main village and 1,000 acres sold to Dr. Joseph Jones for a summer resort, while the members divided, some joining the community at Hancock (West Pittsfield) and others that at Enfield, Conn. The only one of this number now living is Sister Elizabeth Thornber at Hancock, although a number of persons survive who were at one time Tyringham Shakers, or lived as children in their community.

### **The Holy Ground.**

The Shakers were above all things spiritualists, and the Holy Ground, or Mt. Horeb, formed an interesting feature in their religious rites. Its bare summit, now a part of the Nokomis Lodge property, rises to a height 1406 feet above the sea or some 200 feet above the "church family" settlement. To it young and old were wont to ascend periodically, keeping time to the so-called "Shaker shuffle." A considerable area of the summit was carefully fenced and within were rude seats of wood for the faithful. There was also a white marble slab as a monument to Mother Ann. It is said that the true

Shaker believed there was an invisible tabernacle on this bare hill, in the midst of a most beautiful garden in which all manner of tropical and other fruits grew in abundance.

Much of the land the Shakers tilled has already reverted to the forest; many of their buildings have been transformed or demolished; their orchards are falling into decay, their quaint furniture has been scattered far and wide; to-day perhaps the ponderous walls of stone scattered over their former proud domain best attest to their presence here. In a little graveyard at Fernside ninety and nine lie buried.

### **In the Revolution.**

The town was deeply interested in the Revolutionary War. Ezekiel Herrick, who was one of the first to make a clearing in the Hop Brook valley, with Giles Jackson and Benjamin Warner represented the town in the county congress of 1774, which declared loyalty to King George, but rebellion to his parliament. Jackson was later a member of the first and third provincial congresses. Noah Allen was a captain and Samuel Brewer an adjutant in Colonel Fellows' Berkshire regiment at the battle of

Bunker Hill, in which it acted as a sort of rear guard to those more actively engaged. After the fight at Ticonderoga, Brewer became a colonel. In the entire war the town lost three men — Nathan Hale, Daniel Markham, Nathaniel (or Solomon?) Culver. Hale was killed by a grape shot at Bemis Heights, October 7, 1777. Tyringham contributed ten men to the Continental army, and in the militia most of her men appear to have been enrolled. On page 210 of Beers' History of Berkshire County is a list of 153 Tyringham men enrolled at one time or another during the war.

No fighting in any of the wars occurred within the present or former limits of the town, and, despite various recently published statements to the contrary, there is no evidence that bodies of armed troops passed through Hop Brook. It was over the "great road," leading across the Hoosacs, and passing through the "Old Center," that General Amherst took his troops and stores, and a portion of General Burgoyne's captured army was led.

### **Hop Brook's First Church.**

The first church edifice to be erected in Hop Brook was begun by the Con-

gregationalists on Cemetery hill, south of the present Methodist church, in 1797. It was the outcome of the change of location of the "center" meeting-house when in 1796 the second edifice was built, the new location being nearly a mile farther from Hop Brook than the old. The valley Congregationalists, however, could only erect the shell of a church, the interior not being finished off for many years, or until the Baptists, who had come in from Rhode Island, united with the Congregationalists for a Union church. The annual "May training" of the militia was held close to this first church. On one of these occasions the building was damaged by the bursting of an old cannon, when Silas Ward was killed, Lyman Webster had some ribs broken and others were less seriously injured.

### **The Baptist Meeting House.**

The Baptist Church of Lee and Tyringham was formed August 22, 1827, with twenty members, seven males and thirteen females. In 1844 a distinctively Baptist meeting-house was erected. This was destroyed by fire Thanksgiving day, 1873, when the present edifice was erected on the same site. The success-

ive preachers have been: Rev. Messrs. Ira Hall, Isaac Child, Alexander Bush, George Phippen, O. H. Capron, David Avery, Foster Henry, Addison Brown, J. V. Ambler, Edwin Bromley, E. W. Pray, William Goodwin, Walter Chase, M. P. Favor, A. M. Higgins (supply), John D. Pope, George Colesworthy, J. H. Bigger, E. N. C. Barnes, V. H. Lindsley, W. F. Chase, W. P. Bartlett.

### **Tyringham Methodists.**

The late Daniel Clark was authority for the statement that there was Methodist preaching in Hop Brook as early as 1791, Robert Green being the preacher. In 1825 the Reformed Methodists built a meeting-house, 36 x 26, near where the dwelling of Charles H. Hale now stands. It stood for eighteen years; was then sold to Hiram Clark, who made a dwelling of it near the present Methodist church. In 1840 Tyringham became a station of the Methodist Episcopal church, and began to receive ministers regularly. In 1844 the present church was erected, at a cost of \$6,000. The following have been the successive ministers: Rev. Messrs. Howe, Wakely, Ferguson, Van Deusen, Bullock, Sparks, Albert Nash,



Andrus, Hiscox, Keeler, Lent, Grenville E. Kerr, Champion, Dickinson, Bates, Delos Lull, Ketchum, Alexander McLane, Collins, Corey, Wood, Thomas Elliott, Charles B. Landon, William A. Mackey, Maston, Green, Stickles, O. P. Crandall, Fields Hermance, Robert F. Elsdon, N. L. Heroy, J. W. Sweetman, Edwin Trevor, A. B. Woolsey, C. M. Preston, A. J. Toles, Wray, J. W. Gorse, J. D. Eckert, J. H. Lane, E. Cornell, J. S. Lull, J. W. Morrison, J. T. Hoyle, W. J. Gritman, James Lord, L. G. Spooner, William H. Peters.

### **The Rake-makers.**

To paraphrase Tennyson, factories may come and factories may go, but rake-making in Tyringham goes on forever. The valley has heard the hum of much and varied machinery from the day the first saw and grist mills were started within its confines. Almost every brooklet leading into Hop Brook itself has at one time or another turned a wheel. At one period Sodom contained grist, saw, rake and cotton mills. There were the numerous Shaker shops. Once there was a spool factory on Hop Brook, just across the iron bridge from the new library building. Immediately

over the brook from the library a rake factory stood for a while. There is a tradition of a furniture factory where stands to-day the Downses' saw-mill. And overshadowing all was the reign of the papermakers.

To-day not a mill remains save the rake factories, with the saw-mills attached to them. For three generations a single family has been converting the trees of the valley into hand rakes and distributing the latter among the farmers and gardeners of the Atlantic seaboard. William Stedman established the business at Sodom, where his mill still stands. There it was continued by his son Martin. To-day the latter's son, Marshall W. Stedman, operates a mill at the "new center" that would have made his grandfather rub his eyes — lighted by electricity, run by steam when water is low, and generally conducted on modern principles. But in the mill is still in use a little machine invented by the original Stedman, which has yet to be improved upon. It is the first machine ever used for the turning out of rake teeth, which were previously made by hand.

Other doughty rake-makers there have been — among them James L. Breckinridge, who has been followed in

turn by George W. Oles and the present Downs family; Daniel McCollum, followed by John C. Garfield, and the latter's son, Dighton M. Garfield. In the old days the rakes were loaded upon wagons and peddled down through Connecticut, up into Vermont and west even across the Hudson river. To-day they are shipped by rail to retailers and wholesalers, often at ten times the former distances.

### **The Papermakers.**

It was in the era of the papermakers that Hop Brook presented a scene of greatest activity. The hills rang with the axes felling firewood, wagons rattled down into the vale with the product, tall chimneys belched black or yellow smoke, springs far back were tapped by wooden pipes for clear water to use in the paper itself; there was the song of the machinery, the laughter of the mill-hands. At least half the housewives in town boarded one or two or even twenty of the employees; wagons brought in rags from the railroad, and carried back the finished product; the local stores did a thriving business; the Lee stage ran weighted down with passengers at every trip; Sunday mornings the road was lined with men and women trudging into Lee to mass.

## The Turkey Mill.

The famous Turkey mill was erected on the site of the present Stedman rake factory in 1832 by Riley Sweet and Asa Judd, under the firm name of Sweet & Judd. It was started as a hand mill, making one sheet at a time on a wire mould, but soon it had two engines, a cylinder machine and made about 400 pounds of paper a day. Jared Ingersoll and George W. Platner bought the mill in 1833, and in 1835 Elizur Smith (founder of the present Smith Paper Co. of Lee) took an interest, the firm becoming Ingersoll, Platner & Smith. Mr. Ingersoll, however, soon sold out to his partners, and the mill remained Platner & Smith's until the former's death in 1855. In 1849 they introduced the first Fourdrinier machine used in this country, and began making water-marked, first-class paper. Soon they attained the reputation of making the best writing paper in the United States. By 1855 the mill had been enlarged and fitted with seven engines. Mr. Smith, however, withdrew his business to the railroad, and in 1869 the mill was rented to Watkins & Cassiday. Within a short time it burned. George W. Canon in 1872 erected a three-engine mill on the

same spot, and he was succeeded in ownership by Robert Slee, of Poughkeepsie, but the new mill was never a success. The building is now in service as a rake factory.

### **Bay State Mill.**

The tall brick chimney now standing to the west of the main street, a short distance north of the new library, marks the site of the Bay State paper mill, which was built in 1846 by Ezra Heath and Joshua Boss, who sold out to S. C. Johnson & Co. at the end of two years. After another two years it burned. In 1851 it was rebuilt by George W. and John T. West; run one year; sold to J. W. Sweet and John M. Northrop; run one year; purchased by George W. West, and managed successfully until 1866, when he sold to John Trimble. The building was burned in 1871 and was never rebuilt.

### **Dignitaries of the Past.**

When the town was divided in 1847 the government remained with the name and there was no interruption in it in so far as the Hop Brook district was concerned. But those town officers residing within the limits of Monterey of

course resigned and they were supplanted by citizens of present Tyringham. After these changes Charles H. Fargo remained town clerk; the board of selectmen comprised Ezra Heath, Eli G. Hale and Daniel McCollum; Jerome Crittenden, Jabez H. Downs and Dr. George Phillips, school committee; Ira Van Bergen, treasurer. John W. Sweet was moderator of the town meeting which filled the vacancies. In 1849 Riley Judd succeeded to the town clerkship, being followed in 1854 by Albert C. Heath; in 1860 by J. W. Wilson; in 1865 by A. C. Heath; in 1866 by T. D. Holmes; in 1867 by George W. Garfield; in 1904 by George R. Warren, the incumbent.

Beginning in 1848 the following held office as first selectmen for one year each and in this order: Ezra Heath, 2d, Solomon Garfield, John W. Sweet, E. G. Tyrrell, Solomon Garfield, E. G. Hale, Daniel Heath, Solomon Garfield, John W. Sweet, Solomon Garfield, E. G. Hale, T. D. Thatcher, Henderson Ward. This brings us down to 1860. Then for four years E. G. Hale held sway, except only in 1863, when J. M. Garfield was chosen. In 1866 Henderson Ward began an uninterrupted term of seven years. In 1873 E. G. Hale began a

term of eight years, but this was broken by the one year of John Cannon, Jr., in 1877. D. M. Garfield served in 1881 and '82; J. W. Sweet (the present), from 1883 to '86, inclusive; C. H. Hale, in 1887; J. W. Sweet, in 1888; C. H. Hale, from 1889 to 1895, inclusive; J. W. Sweet, from 1896 to 1902, inclusive, and Nathan Canon brings us down to date.

Prior to 1857 each town in the State was entitled to a representative in the general court. Among those who served from Hop Brook before the separation were Ezekiel Herrick, Solomon Garfield, Eli G. Hale and Ezra Heath, 2d. Following 1847 the representatives from Tyringham have been successively: John Branning, Nathan Rowley, John Branning, Ezra Heath, Ebenezer Beers, Eldridge B. Tyrrell, John Canon, John M. Northrop, John M. Garfield, Charles E. Slater, Charles H. Hale, Edward H. Slater, the incumbent.

The town has never been represented in the State Senate or in Congress following the adoption of the United States Constitution. At least one native and resident of Tyringham has, however, attained a national and perhaps an international reputation — the late Daniel Clark, whose remarkable geological col-

lection has drawn many noted savants to the house at the head of the valley, where the minerals and other rare specimens are still to be seen.

### **In the Civil War.**

The town of Tyringham met all demands upon it in the War of the Rebellion, spending \$6960 in money, aside from \$1681.51 expended as State aid, and raising a full quota of men. George H. Sweet, who enlisted in October, 1862, at the age of nineteen, became a second lieutenant in Company F, Fortyninth Massachusetts. Other Tyringham men who enlisted were Hamlin F. Clark, Hiram Young, Thomas H. Vedetto, George L. Barnes, Alfred S. Bigelow, Horace W. Blake, Karl Curtin, Henry J. Gardner, Addison B. Heath, Franklin Heath, Thomas Maloney, Edward W. Stedman, Harlow A. Wheelock, Scott W. Wilson, James S. Young, Wilbur F. Anthony, Gershom W. Fielding, Theodore D. Holmes, Gilbert B. Ingraham, Henry Johnson, William J. King, George Tichnor, Charles Blakesley, James M. McGinness, John Waters, William T. Taylor, Amos Williams, James Butler, Coleman Finegan.



## Random Notes.

The first schoolhouse erected in Hop Brook stood a half-mile south of the present Methodist church. In 1883 the town employed nine female teachers and there was an attendance of ninety-seven children. In 1904-5 there were but two teachers employed and the highest total enrollment for any one term was twenty-nine pupils. The Tyringham post-office was established in 1820. In 1828, when Josiah C. Robinson was postmaster, the net receipts from postage for the entire year were \$25.77. Toward the end of the last century the late Henry Cone projected a steam railroad through the valley, intended to pass along the wall of the eastern mountain somewhat above the village. A portion of this road was actually built from the Poughkeepsie bridge eastward, but Mr. Cone's resources gave out. Prior to this, when the Boston and Albany railroad was being planned, Tyringham for a while seemed to stand a chance of being one of its stations. The town, however, was divided in its sentiments, and in no condition to offset the inducements offered by Pittsfield.

## The Summer Resident.

The conversion of the chief Shaker settlement into a place for summer boarders first drew into the valley pleasure seekers other than those who had been accustomed to make the familiar round of the valley in carriages from Lenox to Stockbridge. Riverside Farm subsequently entertained many distinguished guests, including an ex-president of the United States, and other farm-houses threw open their doors to the city boarders. With the exception of Fernside (the Shaker settlement) these little summer hostelries still continue the business, but year by year the town is drawing the permanent summer resident. The beginning was made in the autumn of 1889, when Mrs. M. F. Hazen, of New York city, purchased the farm of the "north family" Shakers and made over one of the houses to suit her needs. A few years later Richard Watson Gilder, editor of the Century Magazine, bought the Battle, or Sweet, farm on the outskirts of the village and instituted substantial improvements. Subsequent and successive purchasers have been the late Robert S. Rudd, the New York attorney, whose estate still holds Fernside; Hon. Francis E. Leupp,

now Commissioner of Indian Affairs; H. C. Fordham, the editor; Robb de P. Tytus, the Egyptologist; Mrs. E. B. Andrews, George Tiffany, Brooklyn attorney. One of these purchases consolidated four large farms, another united two. On four of the places boss farmers are employed and many hands kept at work.



## Tyringham Chronology.

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Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock . . . .	1620
Connecticut Valley settled . . . . .	1633
Springfield settled . . . . .	1636
Military incursion of Whites into Berkshire	1676
First settlement in Berkshire at Sheffield	1725
Stockbridge settled . . . . .	1735
First settlement at South Tyringham (now Monterey) . . . . .	1739
French and Indian War . . . . .	1744 to 1759
Jonathan Edwards in Stockbridge	1751 to 1758
First Settlement in Lee . . . . .	1760
First Settlement in North Tyringham or Hop Brook . . . . .	1762
Town of Tyringham incorporated (including what is now Tyringham and Monterey)	1762
Organization of Tyringham Shakers . . .	1782
Tyringham Baptists organize . . . . .	1827
Building of "Turkey" Paper Mill . . . .	1832
Tyringham Methodists organize . . . .	1844
Separation of Monterey from Tyringham .	1847
Disbandment of Tyringham Shakers . . .	1874
Cornerstone of Library laid . . . . .	1902
Dedication of Library . . . . .	1905

## Census Figures of the Town.

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PERIOD.	YEAR.	CENSUS.	POPULA- TION.
Prior to separation,	1765	Provincial,	326
“ “ “	1776	“	809
“ “ “	1790	United States	1397
“ “ “	1800	“	1712
“ “ “	1810	“	1689
“ “ “	1820	“	1443
“ “ “	1830	“	1350
“ “ “	1840	“	1477
After Separation	1850	“	821
“ “	1855	State	710
“ “	1860	United States	730
“ “	1865	State	650
“ “	1870	United States	557
“ “	1875	State	517
“ “	1880	United States	542
“ “	1885	State	457
“ “	1890	United States	412
“ “	1895	State	363
“ “	1900	United States	386
“ “	1905	State	314

## A Rhyme of Tyingham.

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Down in the meadow and up on the height  
The breezes are blowing the willows white.  
In the elms and maples the robins call,  
And the great black crow sails over all  
    In Tyingham, Tyingham Valley.

The river winds through the trees and the brake  
And the meadow-grass like a shining snake ;  
And low in the summer and loud in the spring  
The rapids and reaches murmur and sing  
    In Tyingham, Tyingham Valley.

In the shadowy pools the trout are shy,  
So creep to the bank and cast the fly !  
What thrills and tremors the tense cords stir  
When the trout it strikes with a tug and whir  
    In Tyingham, Tyingham Valley!

At dark of the day the mist spreads white,  
Like a magic lake in the glimmering light ;  
Or the winds from the meadow the white mists  
    blow,  
And the fireflies glitter,—a sky below,—  
    In Tyingham, Tyingham Valley.

—*Richard Watson Gilder.*

## Old Home Week Committee.

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### Executive Committee:

*President*—ROBB DE P. TYTUS.

*Treasurer*—I. B. TINKER.

*Secretary*—JOHN A. SCOTT.

NATHAN CANON.

L. B. MOORE.

E. H. SLATER.

### General Committee:

*Selectmen*—NATHAN CANON, *Chairman*;

W. H. HALE, I. B. TINKER.

*Library Trustees*—L. B. MOORE, *Chairman*;

ROBB DE P. TYTUS, E. H. PALMER.

*School Trustees*—E. H. SLATER, *Chairman*;

G. F. KOPP, HENRY CRITTENDEN.

*Town Clerk*, GEORGE R. WARREN;

*Deputy Sheriff*, CHARLES H. HALE;

*Postmaster*, E. L. TINKER.

*Summer Residents*--RICHARD WATSON GILDER,

FRANCIS E. LEUPP, H. C. FORDHAM.

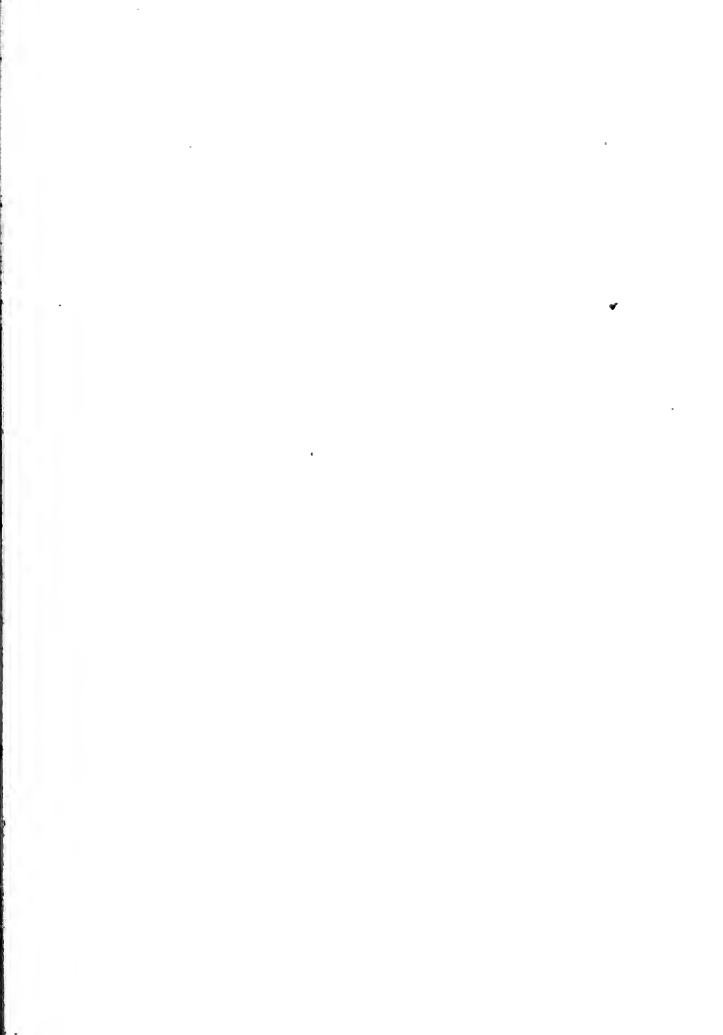
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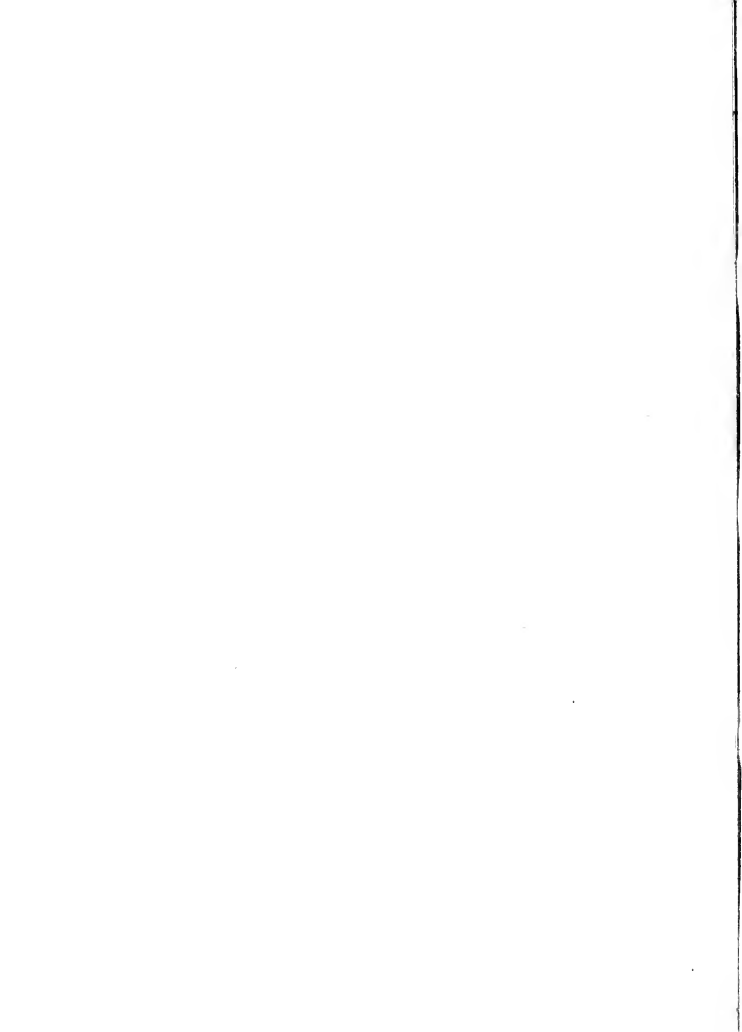
Sun Printing Company, Pittsfield

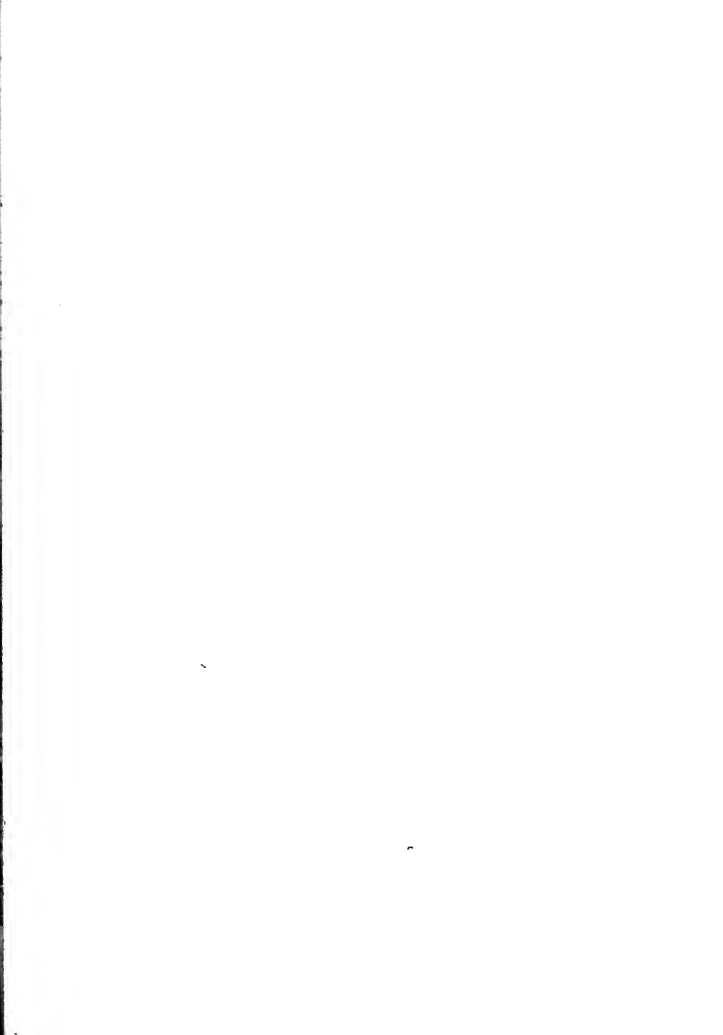
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